

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the Final Office Action of March 9, 2005, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to clarify Applicants' invention. Claims 1—17 remain pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 7—10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fritz et al. (U.S. 5,094,271). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Fritz et al. does not teach a "damper" as its element 6. Element 6 is a moveable constriction providing constriction in a fluid-conveying channel between two reservoirs. The hose accordingly has two tubular channels and one fluid conveying channel therebetween. The capacities of tubular channel 14 and tubular channel 15 are varied by placement of the constriction 6 to regulate attenuation of hose hammering.

As seen from column 14, lines 41—48 of Fritz et al., a tubular channel 13 extends through constriction 6 between an outside diameter of inner section 3 of hose 1 and the inside diameter of nipple 11 of constriction 6. Therefore, Fritz et al does not teach or suggest "a damper" having "a bore formed in said main body along a longitudinal axis and having a solid wall, said bore operable to abuttingly receive said hose member" as recited in Applicants' independent Claim 1. Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 7—10 are believed patentably distinguishable over Fritz et al.

Claims 1—4, 7 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Oppenhauser (U.S. 3,370,815). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As clearly seen from Figs. 1—3 of Oppenhauser, channel supports 18, 26 extend transversely to hoses 12, 14, 22. Therefore, Oppenhauser cannot teach "a damper

disposed on said hose member generally between said first and second ends and adjustably moveable along a longitudinal axis of the hose member therebetween" as recited in Applicants' independent Claim 1. Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 2—4, 7 and 10 are believed patentably distinguishable over Opperhauser.

Claims 5, 6, 9 and 11—17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Opperhauser. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without acknowledging the correctness of the Examiner's detailed remarks, Claims 5, 6, 9 and 11—12 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1 and are therefore believed allowable for the reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1.

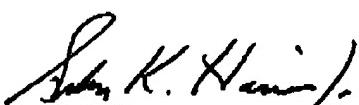
Opperhauser is likewise inapplicable to Applicants' method Claims 13—17, in that Opperhauser fails to teach or suggest "providing a mass damper adjustably moveable on the hose along a longitudinal axis thereof between the first and second ends" as recited in Applicants' independent Claim 13. Therefore, Claims 13 and its dependent Claims 14—17 are believed to be patentably distinguishable over Opperhauser.

Claims 1 and 13, as amended herein, and Claims 2—12 and 14—17 as originally presented, are believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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